

Beitrag zu VN-Bericht “Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control”

Since its inception, Germany has been a staunch supporter of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). Implementing and supporting the WPS agenda remains a key priority and a cross-cutting principle in German foreign and security policies, including on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. Studies have long shown how girls and women can be particularly affected and often disproportionately victimized by the proliferation and use of conventional weapons, e.g. by firearms, anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions during, after and even outside military combat, and by the testing and use of nuclear weapons whose radiation effects have severe impacts on their reproduction capacity. Hence, Germany remains convinced that strengthening women’s participation as well as mainstreaming gender perspectives in relevant processes are essential to find and implement comprehensive and sustainable solutions to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation.

Germany promotes the equal, full, meaningful and effective participation of women in decision-making and implementation processes - by advocating for such commitments in international arms control instruments and relevant texts as well as by promoting women’s representation in these fora. Germany funds relevant support efforts, such as trainings, fellowship programmes and networks facilitated by UNODA. In the composition of national delegations to arms control processes, Germany has successfully ensured women’s representation and participation, including as heads of delegations. Moreover, Germany strives to mainstream gender perspectives in international arms control instruments as well as regional capacity-building measures.

As a leading donor in international humanitarian arms control efforts, Germany attaches high importance to integrate the WPS agenda in its project work. When conceptualizing assistance measures, Germany ensures that projects are gender sensitive. Furthermore, Germany supports data collection and research on women, arms control and disarmament in order to examine gender biases of military-relevant technology and better understand the specific impact of weapons use and proliferation on women and girls, thereby contributing to the establishment of an empirical basis essential to formulating and advocating for effective policies and programmes to address issues regarding women, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation.